

State Advisory Group (Juvenile Council)
staffed by the Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention
Meeting Minutes
March 14, 2016
Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention
300 E. Joppa Road, Suite 1105
Towson, MD 21286
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Participating Members:

Michelle Becote-Jackson, Vice Chair
Zachary Caplan (phone)
Heather Chapman
Anne-Marie Hansen-Combs
Lynn Davis
Bruce Edwards (phone)
Musa Hammett (phone)
Lynette Holmes for Secretary Abed
Liz Park
Gavin Patashnick
Janelle Riddick (phone)
Erica Rosen
Melanie Shapiro
Judge Michael Stamm
Keith Warner
Samantha Wiggins (phone)

Guests:

D'Artagnan Caliman, Department of Human Resources

Staff:

Jessica Wheeler, Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention

I. Welcome, Introductions, and Vice Chair's Remarks

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 p.m. Members and guests introduced themselves.

II. Approval of Minutes

Ms. Davis made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Patashnick seconded the motion. All were in favor and the minutes were approved.

III. Maryland National Guard Freestate ChalleNGe Academy

Mr. Rose, Director of the Freestate ChalleNGe Academy, provided members with a presentation of the program. The program was established by Congress in 1993 and consists of a multi-phase

intervention program that targets high school dropouts ages 16-18 years old. There are two phases of the program; the first 5 ½ months is a structured and disciplined residential phase followed by a 12 month post-residential phase. Cadets focus on education and practical life skills and are also linked with skilled and trained mentors after the program ends. Members were provided with a copy of the powerpoint presentation with more details about the program.

Mr. Rose noted that due to legislation passed by the 2012 Maryland General Assembly, the age of compulsory school attendance was raised from 16 to 17 on July 1, 2015 and will be raised to 18 on July 1, 2017. This significantly impacts the target population for this program. Mr. Rose has been having conversations with the Maryland State Department of Education to develop a strategy that meets the needs of the youth and is within the mandate. He has also briefed judges and lawmakers on the program.

IV. FY 2015 Department of Juvenile Services Data Resource Guide

Deputy Secretary Holmes provided members with a copy of the FY 2015 Data Resource Guide and an overview of the data. Of note is the reduction at intake, detention and committed placements statewide. This trend is consistent with the national data. The FY 15 Data Resource Guide also includes data on youth detained pending adult criminal charges at a juvenile detention facility.

V. Subcommittee Reports

a. Grant Monitoring

Ms. Davis informed members that the Grant Monitoring subcommittee conducted a site visit at the Freestate ChalleNGe Academy in February. It was a good opportunity to tour the facility and see the program in action. Members would like to continue conducting site visits in the future.

b. Youth Engagement

There were no youth members present at the meeting and this update was tabled until the next meeting.

c. Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC)

Ms. Shapiro stated that the subcommittee continues to explore restorative practices in schools. A follow-up meeting with Community Conferencing was held on February 18. At that meeting, members continued their discussion from December around the possibility of expanding Community Conferencing in schools in Baltimore City and Baltimore County.

Ms. Shapiro also stated that HB1466 was introduced into the General Assembly to establish a Task Force to Study Restorative Justice Discipline Practices in Maryland Public

Schools. There has not been any opposition to this bill.

d. Recruitment, Training, and Regionalization

Captain Warner briefly updated members on the vacancies:

- Representative of public agency concerned with recreation
- Youth member (DJS-involved) between ages of 18- 24

In addition, eight members have terms expiring on 6/30/16, four of which are not eligible for re-appointment due to term limits. This will create vacancies for the following seats:

- Two youth (DJS-involved)
- Representative of a *private nonprofit* organization concerned with delinquency prevention and treatment
- Representative of a *public* agencies concerned with delinquency prevention or treatment in the area of special education

e. Legislative

Mr. Patashnick informed members that the subcommittee has been conducting weekly conference calls to review bills relevant to the core protections of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act. The subcommittee has recommended action on SB 81 - Juvenile Law - Continuum of Care - Repeal of Termination Date and a letter of support was submitted. The subcommittee is currently pending approval to submit written support for HB 1466 to establish a Task Force to Study Restorative Justice Discipline Practices in Maryland Public Schools.

Delegate Valentino-Smith has been very supportive of the legislative subcommittee and would like the Council to become a resource for the legislators. During this session, the Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention submitted informational testimony on HB 341 which would establish a Commission to Study the Disproportionate Justice Impact on Minorities. The Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention also submitted information on the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act and the Prison Rape Elimination Act to legislators.

Moving forward, the subcommittee would like to explore the feasibility of becoming more involved with bills that are not directly linked to the four core protections but still fall under the realm of the Juvenile Council's work, such as supporting the developmental approach to adolescent brain development. This will be discussed prior to the next legislative session.

VI. New Business

a. Juvenile court fees op-ed

Due to time constraints, this agenda item was not discussed. It will be added to the next meeting agenda.

b. Grant reductions and the SAG's role in sustainability

Due to time constraints, this agenda item was not discussed. It will be added to the next meeting agenda.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

NEXT MEETING:

May 9, 2016

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Location: TBA